

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Amend the paragraphs on page 1, line 25, through Page 2, line 9, as follows:

Existing waterfall devices are generally custom-made for each particular artificial body of water. That is, such devices must be sized and configured to fit a specific water or support structure. Often, these waterfall devices must be integrated into the circulation and filtration system with additional materials and involve an array of plumbing and molding techniques. In some cases, such waterfall devices must have an independent water filtering system and cleaning system so that waterfall device does not become plugged with debris. As such, prior art waterfall devices tend to be relatively costly and difficult to install.

Accordingly, there is a need for a device that allows for the addition of a waterfall to an artificial body of water, such as a spa, swimming pool, tub or the like. There is also need for such a device to be able to be integrated into a spa, swimming pool, tub or the like without excessively disrupting or interfering with the existing water filtering system. There is a further need for a combined device serving multiple purposes such as an aesthetically pleasing ornamental addition to, a means for filling with water, and/or a means for entering, exiting or moving around a spa, swimming pool, tub or the like. It is to these needs and others that the present invention is directed.

Amend the paragraph on page 7, lines 1-17, as follows:

Referring now to FIG. 2, an illustrative embodiment of waterfall handle 10 comprises three components, namely, elongated member 12, which comprises waterfall slot 40, flanked by first end piece 30 and second end piece 32. Elongated member 12 is a generally hollow and generally cylindrical structure having a central portion 102 of a first diameter and cooperating ends 14, 16 of a second smaller diameter. More specifically, cooperating ends 14, 16 are structured for holding or securing elongated member 12 within accepting ends 36, 38 of first end piece 30 and second end piece 32, respectively, such that when elongated member 12 and end pieces 30, 32 are assembled a generally smooth outer surface is presented. Thus, when assembled, that is when first end piece 30 and second end piece 32 are connected to elongated member 12 at the accepting ends 36, 38, waterfall handle 10 appears as a generally continuous shaped structure. Waterfall slot 40 is located lengthwise along central portion 102 and provides an exit for water to flow from the hollow interior of elongated member 12. This illustrative three-component configuration is for ease of manufacturing and installation, and as shown in FIG. 10 configurations having more or fewer components are within the scope and spirit of this invention.

Amend the paragraph on page 10, lines 4-15, as follows:

Water (as shown by arrows W) flows from a feed water inlet or water source (not shown) through channel 34 of first end piece 30 into first chamber 18 of elongated member 12 parallel to its axis A. Distributing slot 44 along chamber divider 42 allows for a more smooth and even distribution of water within elongated member 12 in general and into second chamber 19 in specific, and thus to waterfall slot 40. Because of the nature of water flow, second chamber 19 will readily fill with water. To help evenly distribute water, a series of perforations can be used on divider 42 rather than a single distributing slot 44. By allowing for the even distribution of water from first chamber 18 to second chamber 19, waterfall handle 10 can distribute water through waterfall slot 40 more effectively. As such, it is possible to generate a more even flow to second chamber 19 and thus a more even waterfall 20 from waterfall device 10.

Amend the paragraph on page 12, lines 10-16, as follows:

The waterfall handle 10 can be used on almost any artificial water body. While waterfall handle 10 is described in connection with a spa 22, it is understood that waterfall handle 10 could be used on spas, swimming pools, tubs, showers, and the like. For example, waterfall handle 10 can be placed on the edge of a swimming pool so to provide a waterfall and a handle on the swimming pool. One of ordinary skill in the art can modify waterfall device 10 so that it can be placed on any artificial water body.